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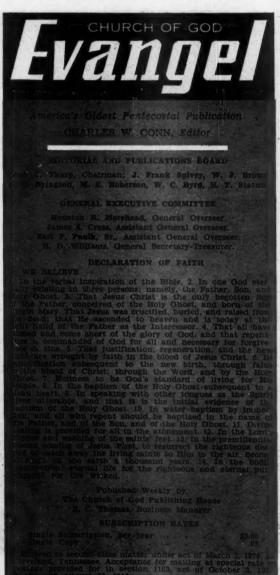
Portrait of a Small Town Church



The World Girds Itself for ARMAGEDDON

IN THIS ISSUE

Editorials Portrait of a Small Town Church	Bill Sheeks
The Gospel of Christ Is This It? Healing	George L. Britt
The Editor Looks at Books The Readers' Query	



In THIS EDITION we have a splendid word portrait of the Kannapolis, North Carolina Church, in which mention is made of the liberality of Mr. Charles A. Cannon. This man has long been a great benefactor to the churches and church-sponsored institutions in and near Kannapolis. Many of our pastors have known the blessing of his assistance in time of need, as has the orphanage located in the area. The beauty of his philanthropies is that they come from a Christian heart. When I was a boy in another state I frequently heard of Mr. Cannon's Christian character, his love for the Church and his contributions to it.

Mr. Cannon and his Kannapolis are worthy of note. His father, James W. Cannon, began his first cotten mill in 1887, one year after the founding of the Church of God on the Tennessee-North Carolina border. It was in 1905, less than a year preceding our first Assembly, that he bought 600 acres of farm land on which was built a towel mill and the brand new village of Kannapolis. The community was named by compounding the two Greek words meaning "Loom City." Since his father's death in 1921 the younger Mr. Cannon has been the guiding spirit of both the vast Cannon Mills and the town of Kannapolis. Today 26,000 inhabitants of the town enjoy one of the cleanest, most modern little cities in the South.

When Kannapolis village was only seven or eight years old, the Church of God was organized there. It has long been a real spiritual influence in the community and one of the largest congregations in the Church of God.

The Evangel pays tribute to the Kannapolis Church for its splendid work in this lovely town and to Mr. Charles A. Cannon for his generosity to the work of God.

OUR YOUTH CONGRESSES

- Ten Years Later -

HEN THE FIRST regional Sunday School and Youth Congresses were conducted in 1948, the delegates hardly knew what to expect. They went to the congresses expecting them to be, as they often expressed it, "little Assemblies" or "super camp meetings." All too often the meetings were made exactly that, for strictly informative and pedagogic conventions were unfamiliar and largely undesirable.

But that was nearly ten years ago. Now things are different and the congresses have become one of the most vital and vigorous facets of our church program. This is no new thing, for they have been so almost from the start, but they have steadily grown in size, in response, in results and I dare say in purpose. The sure hands of our various directors of the past—Ralph E. Williams, Lewis J. Willis, Ray H. Hughes—have seen to that. Now it seems that the meetings have reached an even higher peak of effectiveness for Christ. The meetings this year defy verbal description. Director

MINISTRAND



O. W. Polen is to be commended, along with his assistant, Cecil B. Knight, for the laudable work of 1957. Naturally their staff comes in for a great share of the credit and the National Sunday School and Youth Board is an inconspicuous pillar beneath the whole structure, but these two men have borne the lion's share of responsibility and labor.

The results of their labor have been a marvel to behold. Delegates have been delighted, challenged, inspired, and instructed. They have learned that the classroom can be as hallowed as the pulpit and that beyond the emotions lie intellect and reason that must be touched also by the power of the gospel. They have learned that teaching need not be dreary and that all of man must be brought into captivity to the Spirit of Christ.

For a number of years our congresses have been attracting the attention and the admiration of Sunday School workers and youth leaders across the land. More and more they have come to realize that we are in the vanguard and look to us for help. The late Dr. Clarence Benson told me shortly before his death that much of the credit for the current resurgence of Sunday School interest belongs to the Church of God and our Pentecostal comrades. This venerable champion of Christian pedagogy saw only a part of our efforts. We are under divine obligation to show a dubious world what can be done when we labor "not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord."

ON DIFFERENT SCALES NOW

S IT MUST TO ALL MEN, death has come to the colorful Aga Khan, Moslem leader and "deity." As a direct descendant of Mohammed, the Aga was worshipped by 20 million Ismaili Moslems. They heaped upon this man all their loyalty and veneration, believing him to be a god.

His fame outside the circle of his followers was for his love of fast horses, beautiful women and luxurious living. It was his abandonment to the pleasures of the flesh that made him renowned in the Western world. He squandered and reveled like a pleasure-mad man while his impoverished people treated him like a god.

The most spectacular event of his indulgent life occurred in 1946, when in Bombay his followers matched the weight of his corpulent body with dia-

monds, platinum and gold. He sat regally on huge scales while the multitudes brought forth their offerings until the heap matched his enormous weight. His weight was annually matched with these rich gifts. Such sacrifices of his people made him a wealthy man, and the stories of his wealth, his habits, and his family sickened the serious people of the world.

Now he must be weighed on different scales. This time it is on the scales of God, as you and I must be weighed one day. Belshazzar was weighed on these scales and his life failed to balance out. Aga Khan, as did Belshazzar, must now be weighed against the eternal Word of God instead of the fleeting adulation of his people. It is not the bulk of the body that counts on these scales, but the gravity of the soul.

So must we all be weighed in the balances of God. Our opportunities and advantages must be weighed against our deeds, and our purity must be weighed against the requirements of God. The greater our influence and responsibility, the greater must be our accomplishment; the greater the enlightenment of our day, the greater our likeness to the Son of God.

OUR PORTENTOUS COVER

N THIS WEEK'S cover is a grim picture—the explosion of an atomic shell fired from the track gun in the foreground. The world girds itself for Armageddon even while it cries for peace.

Any reminder of war is horrible, but it is the Word of God that gives the sternest reminder of what man will bring upon himself in the last days. "And ye shall hear of wars and rumors of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet," Matthew 24:6. We cannot hide from it, for the aspect of it is in the very air we breathe.

You will want to read in this edition the gripping study of the restoration of the old Roman Empire as a western European confederacy. How exactly these things are fulfilling Scripture as one by one the pieces of prophecy fall into place. Great travail is ahead for all upon the earth, excepting those who have found and will find sanctuary in the Lord, for these things will happen as "nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom." Even we who are in Him will know the anxiety and distress of the coming events until Christ shall remove us in the rapture.

Another Scripture that the fearsome cover brings to mind is 2 Peter 3:10-13, "But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat? Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness."



Portrait
of a
Small Town
Church

KANNAPOLIS

By Bill Sheeks

HE CHURCH OF GOD, Elm Street, Kannapolis, North Carolina, was organized in 1913. It was only an humble beginning and being in a town where holiness was not welcomed, the church struggled through its infancy until it is now a leader and a pace-setter of real religion throughout its section of North Carolina. The state overseer, the Reverend George T. Brouayer, organized the church and the Reverend W. M. Stallings was the first pastor, From the small membership of less than 12, the Elm Street Church now proudly speaks of its 557 members, with an average Sunday School attendance of 530. Kannapolis, a textile city with 70 churches and a population of 26,000, has a right to call the Elm Street Church its leading church. The Sunday School is the third largest in town.

Much of this church's success can be accredited to the faithful and tireless efforts of its pastors. The Kannapolis Church has been privileged to have some of the best pastors in the Church of God. Among them are Will Stallings, Will Messer, E. C. Gault, T. F. Looney, Jimmy Snyder, H. L. Whittington, U. D. Tidwell, A. V. Childers, Wade H. Horton, James L. Slay, P. H. McCarn, A. V. Beaube, and J. Frank Spivey. With these great men behind the pulpit, the church has been led efficiently through both prosperous and dark days. Men who are the leaders of the town have testified concerning the wonderful effect the Church of God has made on Kannapolis through its spiritual promotion and constant evangelistic efforts.

Ira T. Chapman, former chief of police of Kannapolis, was quoted recently in the Kannapolis Daily Independent as saying "The Church of God on Elm Street has contributed, in my opinion, more to the spiritual life of Kannapolis than any other church in the city." He was referring to the fact that where the building now stands was once a gambling headquarters for two counties (the building is located on the county line). Beneath the floor of the part of the auditorium where the pulpit is, lies a huge stone about nine feet

square where men used to gamble, drink, and shed blood. A local ambulance driver told me that before the Church of God was built here, it was extremely seldom that a week would pass in which he did not answer a call to this location to pick up someone who was either shot to death, cut to death or severely beaten in a gamblers' brawl. This section through which people once feared to pass is now a desirable place to live and rear children.

The plant is located at 911 Elm Street in a beautiful residential section of Kannapolis. Its sanctuary capacity numbers 700. A redecoration program valued at \$15,000 has just been completed. The building is equipped with an electric organ, five pianos, thirty-five Sunday School classrooms, a glass-walled nursery with speaking facilities, a beautiful new baptistry, and accommodations for 1,000 in Sunday School. Two parsonages are owned by the church for both the pastor and his associate.

PERHAPS THE GREATEST project the Kannapolis congregation has ever endeavored was the formation of the orphanage home here. During a regular Sunday morning service in 1944 the inspiration was given to begin such a worthy project. Two small children had been left on the doorstep of the Reverend A. V. Childers, the pastor at that time. With those children and a compassionate. God-loving congregation that laid on the altars of the church almost everything in its possession, the orphanage was begun. Members and friends gave until it was surely sacrificial giving, but not in vain. Real estate, more than 300 acres, was given by C. A. Cannon, president of Cannon Mills. Liberal donations have been given by Mr. Cannon since the orphanage's initial day. Today, the orphanage is state supported by North Carolina's 253 churches and houses sixty-five children. Recently, a beautiful \$42,000 fully-equipped dining hall was donated by Mr. Cannon. All this is a result of a Kannapolis Church of God that loves God and His An inspiring account of the problems, the program, the ministry, and the blessings of a small town church. Kannapolis is typical and representative of all the small town congregations in the Church of God.

No less than twenty-five full-time ministers have gone into the harvest field for the Lord in the Church of God from the local congregation. These preachers today are serving as evangelists, pastors, state overseers, and Christian teachers. Home-coming day brings many of these ministers back home each year to worship together.

During the past seven years the Kannapolis Church has been instrumental in the organization of many new churches that are today doing the work of God in several communities. In the vicinity of Kannapolis, there are now six churches and two missions where there was only the mother church in 1949.

The most recent of these new works is the Lane Street Church of God organized in April with the Reverend Manuel Campbell as its pastor. The forward look is anticipated by the congregation, and God has

The Children's Church is a special attraction every Friday night. Mrs. Ruth Helms directs with the aid of Mrs. Howard Scarboro and Mrs. Harvey Hudson.





There are many sick to visit, both far and near.

already blessed its efforts with a beautiful building, parsonage, a nice piano and organ. Again, the Elm Street Church is the mother church.

The Reverend J. Frank Spivey has just terminated his pastorate in Kannapolis, being succeeded by the Reverend G. E. Weatherby. Brother Spivey was well-loved, not only by the membership, but by the friends of the church. This is evidenced by the fact that he was president of the Ministerial Association. He is the second Church of God pastor to receive this honor in this town. We feel that Brother Weatherby will also have a successful pastorate.

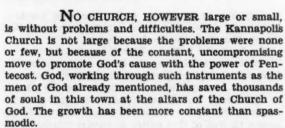
The Reverend Harvey Hudson has served as associate pastor for four years. He is one of our church's leading musicians and singers and is well-liked for his accomplishments. Each summer, Brother Hudson conducts a Bible school with more than 300 students. His work also includes publishing a church paper that is mailed to the membership each week.

The Sunday School bus makes sure they "have a way" to come to Sunday School.





The pastor's personal welcome is appreciated by those coming to Sunday School.



Many civic leaders of the community feel that the Church of God has made a very great contribution to the city of Kannapolis. The work of the congregation has not always realized all benefits in its own community, but has had a far-reaching effect on countless thousands through the medium of radio. Radio stations are proud to list the Church of God as one of their supporters.

Activity gets its full meaning around the Kan-

Rev. and Mrs. J. T. Miller, mission pastor, use the much-needed assistance of H. L. Gantt, Jr. and Eugene and Priscilla Wilkinson to have a good Sunday School at the Kannapolis Mission every Sunday.





The pastor delivers a Christ-centered message.

napolis Church. Friday night is always youth night and children's night at the church. Results from these endeavors are not seen as much in quantity as in quality. Talent spells the reason for much of the church's phenomenal growth. The constant training of the young people has been a work to be appreciated by any church or pastor who loves the ministry of music. This exceptional music has always speeded progress on Elm Street in Kannapolis. Many non-Church of God members are faithful attendants because of the inspiration received from conscientious young people whose talent is given to the Lord.

The young people of the church recently sponsored a barbecue chicken dinner and raised fifty dollars toward the purchase of a nice church sign to be placed on the lawn.

We confidently expect this church to continue to burn its flame for Christ until Jesus comes. The Pentecostal message will continue to be heralded from the pulpit of the Kannapolis Church of God.

The youth of the community have learned to welcome the sound advice of their pastor. He is shown here counseling with a couple.



The Gospel of Christ

By Anton Washek Harlowton, Montana

N ROMANS 1:16 we read, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation. . . . " You may be certain that this gospel of Christ is the message that is further developed in the rest of the book of Romans. The gospel referred to in this passage is not found in its fullness in the Old Testament. Logically, it cannot be, for it is based upon the blood of the New Testament in Christ Jesus. Neither is it sufficiently revealed in the narratives of the four Gospels. This gospel is the revelation of the purpose of God in Christ's life. His crucifixion and His resurrection. It is basically the message of inspiration which came to us by the Pauline and the General Epistles. The validity of this gospel of Christ is in the fact that it is founded upon the truth of the record of Christ in the Gospels. It is further borne witness by many prophecies of the Old Testament (Romans 3:21).

This gospel is the power of God unto salvation; surely, to be saved is to be the recipient of salvation. In speaking of the terms saved and salvation, I try not to consider them in the realm of any man's experience, for a man's emotional, mental or spiritual response to salvation can in no way alter it in its reality (Romans 3:3, 4).

A proper knowledge of salvation can come only when a person determines what God means when He speaks through His inspired writers. It should be quite evident that God's salvation of man, while containing certain crises and experiences, is far more than the sum total of all these experiences. It is largely a knowledge of and a relationship to the Person Jesus Christ (John 8:32; 1 John 5:12, 20).

Salvation may be securely ours only by believing God's revelation of His redemptive plan as brought unto us by the Holy Scriptures. I believe that salvation for man is possible by the merits of Christ, plus nothing else. It must have been and still is freely given (Romans 3:24). If it is not freely given, who holds the responsibility to determine and define, without error, the price for every lost soul to pay? But, if it is by grace only, then every man may positively know it by faith alone. By faith I mean knowing what God has said regarding salvation and believing Him sufficiently to completely and eternally trust His Word (Romans 3:26).

If a man is truly saved by God, his personal en-

deavor is merely in regard to a salvation already possessed. If, however, a man attempts to secure salvation by intellect, or by doing or being, it is evident that he is not yet "saved by faith" (Romans 4:16; Ephesians 2:8-10).

I feel that once a person intelligently possesses God's salvation in the Person Jesus Christ, a willful abandonment of such inheritance is hardly conceivable. It would be easier to deny that two and two equal four and to abandon faith in the rising of the sun in the east, than for a rational man to deny a well-grounded faith in Jesus Christ.

Surely, the God who made Jesus to be sin for me has also made me to be as righteous as Himself (2 Corinthians 5:21). This exchange, made by God, can be mine by faith only. It cannot be felt or described, but may be known only by faith in God's own Word. It is the sole basis for acceptance of the sinner by God (Ephesians 1:4-6).

In the revelation from God it states that I, by faith, am identified with Jesus (Galatians 2:20, 21). God has created my spiritual participation in Christ's life, His death, and likewise His resurrection. This factor gives those who will believe it a position of complete acceptance before a holy God (Romans 6:1-11).

A scriptural view of justification, which is freely obtained by faith, produces peace with God (Romans 5:1). This peace is in nature as eternal as the Saviour by whom it came. This peace and condemnation from God can never co-exist (Romans 8:32-34).

A further ground of faith is found in the sustenance of this relationship on the part of God (1 Peter 1:5). He who conceived our salvation makes it as immutable as His own Person and Word (Romans 8:33, 34; Hebrews 6:17, 18).

The intercession of Christ for me is based on Calvary's fullness and my personal need. When the Holy Spirit prays for me, as He does when I know not how to pray, He does so as the nature of Christ in me yearns for expression unto God (Romans 8:26, 27). Surely, this interest of the Godhead in my behalf must be considered as always unquestionably effective (Philippians 1:6), and it is scripturally evident that God has more concern regarding man's salvation than man himself.

This message of salvation, the gospel of Christ, is of God. It is the only means available to prevent condemnation and the consequential lack of faith which damns a man's soul.

"I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek," Romans 1:16.

"O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out! For who hath known the mind of the Lord? or who hath been his counsellor? Or who hath first given to Him, and it shall be recompensed unto him again? For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen," Romans 11:33-36.

GOD IN HIS PREVIEW of history before it occurred even gave the unusual characteristic of the power that would succeed Babylon, that it would consist of a union of two nations under one crown. We all know how history poured the two nations, Media-Persia, into the prophetic mold to cast the arms and breast of the image of Daniel 2.

Why do not the higher critics in their pretence of honest objectivity explain this one? How could a mere man, amusing himself by fabricating a myth, look into the future and tell in detail the name of the nation that would overthrow Media-Persia and give the minute facts that at the height of his glory the heroic commander of Greece would be broken off, or die, and that four of his generals would divide his empire? In their forced silence the critics unwillingly proclaim the omniscience of our glorious Creator and the immutability of His Word. Even the lowly microbe that caused the death of Alexander stepped in and played its part in casting history according to the prophetic mold. God did not stop with a general outline of future world history but went into a detailed outline of the fortune and wars of two of these kingdoms yet to come; namely, Syria and Egypt (Daniel 8:7-14; 11:4-35). It seems obvious that God gave detailed attention to one of these lesser kingdoms in order to give the background and origin of a notorious personage, who would play such an important part in the fulfillment of so many prophecies dealing with the last days.

According to the divine mold for history, the fourth world empire—the one succeeding Greece—would be mightier, stronger and more terrible than any of the others. God also revealed that this would be the last world empire and that it would break up into autonomous nations represented by the toes of the image. God also revealed in the Scripture something else of importance—that in the end of the age this empire would exist for a very short time by a reunion of these toe nations (Daniel 7:7; Revelation 13:5; 17:12, 13).

To men of Daniel's day, living during the glory of Babylon, with her magnificent hanging gardens and all of her pomp and power, to hear that there would arise an empire that would dwarf the glories of Babylon must have staggered their faith. When God's time arrived, out stepped the fourth world empire, Rome, and fulfilled God's Word in every detail. How little did the small band of Latins who pitched their camp on the Palatine Hill, situated on the banks of the Tiber River in central Italy about 750 B.C., realize that this little village was the beginning of the greatest and strongest world empire ever to exist until the time of the end! Just so today how little do men realize that history is being made according to the divine mold and cannot be molded otherwise.

About A.D. 476, just as the Scriptures foretold, this greatest of empires crumbled into the toes of Daniel's image, which are the modern nations of today within the territory of the Roman Empire. According to man's view, or profane history, the Roman Empire has not existed for many centuries. It is true that the emperors ceased to be and Imperial Rome faded away, but as she faded she blended into the ecclesiastical Roman Empire and a mighty pontiff stepped on the throne of the Caesars. Through this ecclesiastical empire the power of Rome has never ceased to influence world affairs. For many centuries

Training today for an impending fight for survival

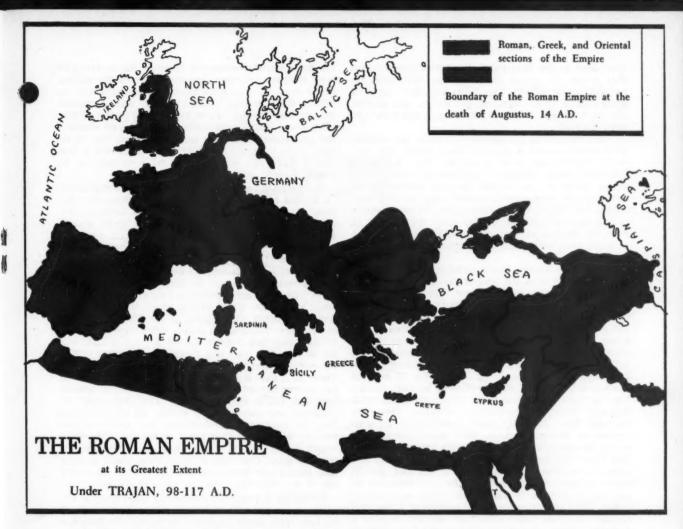
The formation of the Ten-Nation Kingdom within the old Roman Empire is one of the last day events revealed to us by prophecy.

IS THIS IT?

PART TWO

By George L. Britt Greer, South Carolina





this pontiff ruled many nations supremely in political affairs as well as ecclesiastical affairs, and even to-day this successor to the Caesars rules over nearly 500,000,000 people. The toe kingdoms govern themselves largely by Roman law even today and many speak a form of Latin.

The Scriptures that tell us that the nations in the territory of the Roman Empire will be united in a confederacy in the last days do not recognize this confederacy as another empire, but the last stage of the Roman Empire. The Scriptures also reveal that this federation governed by the little horn (Daniel 7:8), the Beast (Revelation 13:1-8), the man of sin (2 Thessalonians 2:3, 4), the Antichrist (1 John 4:3) will continue only a short time (Revelation 17:10; 13:5). His rule will be shortened by the coming of the Son of God, who will smite his armies and cast him into the lake of fire. If all the centuries of human history from Babylon down to now have been molded according to the foreview in Daniel, how can anyone doubt that the remaining years of this age will be cast according to the mold?

Many ambitious, proud conquerors have tried to

carve out world empires contrary to this scriptural mold, but have failed. It seemed at times that they would succeed, but they could not with their mighty armies change one sentence of Scripture. It seemed that Napoleon at one time would establish his empire. but he met his Waterloo. The Kaiser of World War I had ambitions that were not according to the Scriptures, but he met his Verdun. Then when Adolf Hitler was in a handbreadth of succeeding, with Poland, Holland, Belgium, France, Norway, and Luxemburg under his heel, Italy, Austria, Hungary, and Bulgaria fighting at his side, and England lying prostrate before him across the narrow English Channel, he did that which can never be understood except by believers in prophecy; he turned his back on victory, marched east and met his Stalingrad. Gog, with his legions of Magog, has had ambitions of world dominion and is preparing to march, but he is certain to meet his Hamon-gog when he attacks Israel (Ezekiel 39:11).

THE NATIONS HAVE been in the toe stage of Daniel's image for centuries with the status quo only occasionally being disturbed by localized

wars. Just as the immutable prophecies foretold that they would not cleave together, they have been fanatically nationalistic. They have had their separate governments, trade barriers, currencies, and armies, and for over one thousand years have gone their own separate ways.

Today something is happening in these toe nations. They are in a state of agitation and change. The one-world doctrine has become popular. The doctrine of internationalism is openly advocated by some United States Senators. The world's leading mathematician and physicist who recently passed away actively supported the United World Federalists, the organization so popular with college groups since World War II. Even the masses are internationally minded. It is a political asset for a politician to espouse internationalism today.

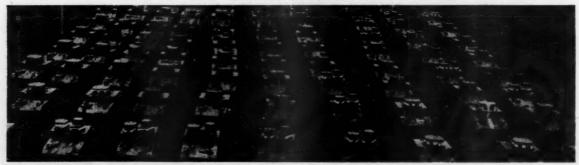
These toe nations which prophecy says will not cleave together until the time of the end (Daniel 2:43) are rapidly coming together now. When this coming together has fully jelled, the Scriptures teach that they will pledge their allegiance to one ruler who will be the ruler in power when Christ returns (Revelation 17:12, 13; Daniel 7:25, 26; Revelation 19:20). They assert that they need this cleaving together for collective security. Bible believers who watched for the fulfillment of prophecy after World War II did not have long to wait for the toe nations to start coming together. First it was the Atlantic Pact, then the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), then the Baghdad Pact. Recently there occurred an incident considered insignificant to the casual reader, but which prophecy students view with intense interest. The prime ministers of six of these nations in the territory to be federated at the time of the end, met in Paris and laid the groundwork for a community of nations comparable to the United States or Russia in power. They agreed to the establishment of a common market free from tariffs and trade barriers, to have a common atomic energy commission and to pool their atomic resources. This newest federation has not been named as yet. The prime ministers called it the "Paris concord."

Since the composition of this article there appeared in the daily press some comments by newsmen about this federation. This appeared in a column by Holmes Alexander in the *Greenville News*: "No signs are hung in the heavens when mankind passes from one historical phase to another. But it would be dangerous

for American statesmen not to know the meaning of West Europe's proposed free-trade area of 280 million customers. . . . Where do American interests lie? We will hardly be willing to fight another war to prevent Europe from uniting." From an editorial in the *Greenville News*: "Britain is watching with some concern the possibility that there may develop on the continent, given time and the right world conditions, a new power which she would either have to join or, in whose shadow, be content to dwell."

Our Secretary of State recently made the statement, "A United States of Europe is nearer than ever before." To students of prophecy this was nothing new. One of the two main contributions of World War II to the course of world history was to break down the nationalistic barriers and animosities and pave the way for the cleaving together of these toes of Daniel's image. World War II toppled England from her dominant position in Europe so that this federation can arise. This cleaving together is happening simultaneously with other world events which the prophetical Scriptures teach will happen at the time of the end of this age. There is an Israel today to make a covenant with this federation (Daniel 9:27). This was not so even ten years ago. Israel is surrounded by bitter enemies and needs this covenant for protection. There is a strong growling Magog today manifesting her hatred toward Israel and ready to march against her and fulfill Ezekiel 38, 39. The chronology of prophecy and current world events are synchronizing like the teeth on geared wheels. How could anyone but the omnipotent God know in advance that these events would happen at all, much less simultaneously? The same God that foretold they would happen said they would happen at the time of the end. How can it be otherwise than the time of the end now?

According to prophetic chronology the stone cut out of the mountain will crush this image in the days of its toes. This stone kingdom represents the kingdom of heaven set up by Christ at His second coming. According to the Scriptures this stone will strike the toe kingdoms and break them to pieces when they are federated for a short time after long separation. Could it happen in the "days of these kings"? Is this it? Truly it is time for the child of God to give diligence to his consecration, to take care to be not conformed to this world, and to set his affections on things above. In view of prophetic truth, surely the kingdom of heaven is at hand.





Saved, Sanctified, Healed and Baptized in the Holy Ghost

HARTWELL, Ga.—Just a word to tell the world through the Evangel how the Lord saved and sanctified me and healed my body, then 3 months and 3 days later filled me with the sweet Holy Ghost. I became ill on June 23, 1956, and was in and out of the hospitals until March 1957, with a growth on my brain, but our Lord removed it on March 16, 1957. The doctor examined me and said everything was normal again, praise God. Last year I weighed 113 pounds and now I weigh 142 and I give the Lord all the praise.

now I weigh 142 and I give the Lord all the praise.
You may ask the Reverend D. W. Mills about this as he saw it all happen. I am now a member of the Church of God. I am praying that I will go farther for our Lord. The Reverend J. W. Heaton knew me before I found God and now his address is Skelton Apartment, Hartwell, Georgia. You may write him or Brother Mills who is the pastor of the Mt. Olivet Church of God in Hartwell, Georgia. Pray that my family and I will stand true to God.

—Lam W. Haygood

Healed of Arthritic Pains

THOMSON, Ga.—I want to praise the Lord for His wonderful blessings that He has bestowed upon me. I was sick for about four months. I did not go to the doctor, but I had a bad pain in my head and arms. It even got into my tongue and gums. I have been a Christian for 35 years, and I have always believed in the goodness of God, and believed that it was His will for us to be healed. But it seemed that I just could not receive my healing completely. I am almost positive that I was suffering from arthritic pains. One Sunday I was watching Brother Oral Roberts on television; God touched my body then, but I was not completely healed. Not too long after that we had a wonderful service at our church. Our pastor asked the ones that wanted to be pray-

ed for to come up for prayer. I went, but he did not lay hands on me. The power of God came down and touched my body and ever since then I have been getting better. I praise God for that. God has been so wonderful to me, and has touched my body so many times. I want to request prayer that I will trust God more completely, that my faith will not waver, that I will always be a blessing to others, and that God will always be with me.

—Mrs. Brady Newsome

Praises God for Healing Power

GREENWOOD, Miss. — I thank the good Lord for His healing power. I had rheumatism in both legs and had a bad cough. One night as I was praying the Lord showed me a light in the corner of the room; my legs got easy and have not hurt me any more. I thank the Lord for that. Pray for me.

—Mrs. Susie Dyson

Leg Healed in Prayer Meeting

LAND O'LAKES, Fla.—I want to thank the good Lord for what He did for me last night at prayer meeting. There was something wrong with my left leg. It had been bothering me for sometime and didn't get any better. It seemed that it was getting worse. When I stooped or straightened up it seemed the tendon or something would draw or was too short. I surely suffered with it, but thank the good Lord after Brother Brickley prayed for me I could get up easily. The Reverend B. B. Brickley is our pastor; we appreciate him and his wife very much. Pray for us and the work here.

—Sister Jonnie Johnson

Growth on Neck Disappears

LEAF, Miss.—I really thank and praise God for His saving, healing and keeping power. He has healed my body many times in the 28 years that I have been saved and have had the Holy Ghost. Over 25 years ago a small growth came on my neck and in the last twelve years it has risen several times. In the last part of March God came to my rescue. Praise His Holy name. I have learned to wait upon the Lord. That place was about the size of an egg when it left. I belong to the Church of God in Leaf where Brother Bascom Stanley is pastor. Pray for me to hold on to God's unchanging hand, also for my unsaved family that somehow God will save them.

—Mrs. Gaines Cowart

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PRINCE

The Reverend C. H. Prince, a minister and a trail blazer in the Church of God, departed this life June 15, 1957, at 11:15 a.m. at his home on 453 Northwest Central Avenue in Cleveland, Tennessee. His death came after a lingering illness of several months. illness of several months. Brother Prince had been an or-

dained minister in the Church of God for nearly 45 years. He was converted when a young man. Many of his friends will remember his testimony of receiving the Holy Ghost in the cotton patch. In his early ministry many times his life was threatened by clubs and rocks; even pistols were fired outside of the church. None of these trials and persecutions ever made him waver in his doctrine and belief. Every time he was threatened in word or deed he talked kindly and used a Christlike attitude. He orused a Christlike attitude. He organized many churches and was instrumental in helping to organize many others. One newly organized church in Middle Tennessee was named "Prince's Chapel" in appreciation of his work. Once the whole church of another faith united with the Church of God through Brother Prince's efforts.

Brother Prince's ministry was made up of both evangelistic and

pastoral work in many churches throughout the South. His last pastoral work before retiring was at Marietta, Georgia. After he retired he visited many places and preached for weekend services.

It seems unusual that about 8 years ago his first wife, Sister Rildie Prince and her sister died the same night. Brother Prince and his same night. Brother Prince and his brother, Sammy, died only one night apart. The funeral was conducted by W. C. Byrd, Overseer of Tennessee; Cleo Watts, pastor of North Chattanooga; and W. M. Wood, pastor of South Cleveland, Tennessee. -Reporter

WILLIAMS

Reverend John Wesley Williams of Danville, Virginia, died May 30, 1957. He was an exhorter in Church of God. -J. D. Bright Overseer of Virginia

YOUNGBLOOD

Sister Martha Harvey Young blood departed this life on April 30, 1957, at the age of 75. She was the wife of the late William Lawton Youngblood. She was a Christian for many years and when her health permitted she attended the Church of God at Blackville, near Adrian, Georgia. She is survived by two sons and one daughter. The funeral was conducted by the Reverend James Moore, assisted by the Reverend Ralph River at the Blackville Church of God.

NESHEM

The Lord called Stephen (Steve) The Lord called Stepnen (Steve)
Neshem to his reward as he worked
on a building in Brooklyn, New
York. His death was the result of
a fall he suffered while working.
Funeral services were conducted
for Brother Neshem at the Church
of God in Minot, North Dakota,
with the Reverend David Glover
and the Reverend Harland Kingsriter officiating.

riter officiating.
Brother Neshem was a charter

member of the Church of God when it was set in order in Berthold, North Dakota, a number of years ago. He remained a member unhis death.

The students who attended B.T.S. when he did will remember Brother Neshem, who was affectionately er Nesnem, who was affectionately called Steve, as a friendly, lovable Christian gentleman from Lone-tree, North Dakota. Steve graduated from B.T.S. in 1933. He and Josephine Walker were united in wedlock after the close of the school term, and left to do pioneer work for the Church of God in the Northeast. They worked principally in the state of New York. While Steve was not a preacher, he faithfully stood by his wife, working with his hands to aid in supporting and developing new works while his wife did the preaching. Brother Neshem possessed many virtues which could be enumerated.

In all his life he never tasted liquor, never smoked, never attended a movie, and never took a dose of medicine. The memory of this faithful husband and father will long linger, and his wife, three sons and one daughter will rise up and call him blessed.

-An old B.T.S. pal, James A. Cross

LANGLEY

The Reverend George Langley, ordained minister in the Church of God, passed away on March 19, 1957. His residence was in Elmer, New Jersey. —Henry C. Stoppe New Jersey. —Henry C. Sterrey Overseer of New Jersey

FULLER

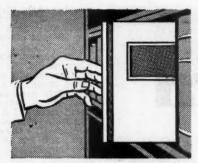
The Reverend Claude Fuller of Mt. Airy, North Carolina, passed away in July of 1957. He was a licensed minister in the Church of God.

—L. H. Aultman
Overseer of North Carolina

McFERRON

Charlie M. McFerron, age 74, departed this life on June 28, 1957, at 7 p.m. in the West Tennessee Hospital in Memphis. He leaves his wife, 3 daughters, 6 grandchildren, 13 great grandchildren and a host of relatives and friends. He was a member of the Church of God. Officiating were the Reverend H. L. Officiating were the Reverend H. L. Evans of Indianola, Mississippi; the Reverend Iron H. Beard of Grenada, Mississippi, and the Reverend C. H. Isabell of Charleston, Mississippi. Burial was in the Friendship Church of God cemetery.

—Mrs. Herron Williams, daughter



THE EDITOR

LOOKS AT BOOKS

PROPHETICAL EVENTS AND THE GREAT TRIBULATION, by Clyde C. Cox, 126 pages, illustrated, clothbound, Exposition Press, \$3.00.

Books on Revelation are always welcome because there are so few good ones in print. This one is especially welcome because it is the work of a frequent writer for the Evangel, Clyde C. Cox, pastor of the Church of God in Dillon, South Carolina.

Instead of treating the book of Revelation in its entirety, author Cox has centered his attention on the period of the coming great tribulation. However, other events of the last days are as a matter of course drawn into the scope of his study. Neither has the author confined himself to the apocalyptic writings of John, but has wisely broadened his view to include those of Daniel and various other seers of the Old Testament.

of the Old Testament.

The style of the writing is lucid and simple, unadorned by theological verbiage. The authority of the work is consistently the Word of God, but not exclusively, for there are occasional historical and traditional assumptions. This merely reveals that the writer is aware of existing works on his subject. There is no debate or controversy here, but an uncritical, orderly and satisfying treatment of God's revelation of things to come.

The book is handsomely printed and bound, and illustrated with drawings by the author. The result is an attractive and beneficial help in the study of these last days. It is warmly recommended to all our readers.

139 SERMON OUTLINES ON THE OLD TESTAMENT, edited by W. Robertson Nicall, clothbound, Baker, 292 pages, \$2.95.

The ultimate worth of a sermon outline book to any preacher is what it does to the preacher himself. If it stimulates his thinking and prods his per-

sonal study and investigation, and if it warms and inspires his heart, then it is worth-while for him. If it induces pulpit laziness and study lethargy, if it becomes a substitute for personal exploration and sermon construction, if it becomes a crutch instead of a goad, then it has done the preacher inestimable harm. For this reason I am always hesitant in recommending any book of sermon outlines.

But here is a book that can be a real blessing to any preacher. To begin with the word outlines is misleading, for these sermons are more than skeletal frameworks to tempt the preacher. They are full and satisfying in their textual treatment, with real suggestiveness and priming. Although the preacher may use them as the springboard for his own sermons, I dare say they will also send him digging into the Word of God.

The sermonic works of forty-six pulpit notables have been brought together in this reprint of an old classic—Farrar, Lightfoot, Maclaren and others. Excellent as inspirational reading for both preacher and layman.

THE CHRISTIAN AND THE MOVIES, by Stephen W. Paine, 79 pages, paperbound, Eerdmans, \$1.00.

Beginning with the premise that Christians do not and should not attend movies, the president of Houghton College presents a sound and thoughtful study of the subject. The writer is positive but not angry, and his presentation is vigorous without being rancorous. It is incontestably demonstrated that movies are a contributing factor to juvenile delinquency, sex crimes and the alcohol menace. Most pastors, teachers and parents would do well to study the short book carefully, for it gives a logical, reasonable and spiritual analysis of the cinema evil. All to whom movies present a problem in any manner will find it immensely helpful.

HOW TO STUDY YOUR BIBLE

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Recommended by Charles W. Conn.

STUDENT'S COMMENTARY on the Holy Scriptures

by George Williams

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reader may be helped and yet so creative that the mature student may be inspired. Ministers, teachers, and other Christian workers will find thoughts suggested by this commentary expanding into fresh treatment of even the old and familiar texts. This devotional commentary is truly an outstanding contribution to a spiritual understanding of the Bible.

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the readers' que

How many Johns are there in the Bible?

-Mrs. B. K. Essex, N. C.

I BELIEVE YOUR question primarily concerns the books of the Bible that bear the name John. They are five: the Gospel according to St. John, the three epistles of St. John, and the Revelation of St. John. All five are by one man, John the disciple of our Lord. There were other men named John, however: John the Baptist, John Mark, and a John of Acts 4:6.



Is it possible for a man with the gift of praying for the sick to be praying for someone with demons in them, and the demons to speak through this person to the man that is praying for them? Also is there any place in the Bible where crosses of blood appeared in peoples foreheads?

(Name withheld by request)

THE ANSWER TO your first question is yes. Read Mark 5:1-13 for an account of this very thing happening to Jesus when He met the demonpossessed man of Gadara. Something very similar happened to Paul and Silas in Acts 16:16-18, when a spirit, or demon, of divination recognized them and cried out through the girl whom he possessed.

The answer to your second question is no. There is no scriptural precedent for such occurrences.

Gradually the Christmas festival which should have counteracted the pagan rites began to absorb elements of those rites. It became so conglomerated with Christianity and paganism that the Pilgrims in early America rejected the observance and substituted Thanksgiving for it. Many of the Christmas traditions of today are modern forms of heathen rites with Christian applications.



Please explain the difference in television and picture shows. Should my child see "shoot-em-up," "lovey-dovey" pictures with near nudity, robbery, murder, in them? Your opinion will be appreciated.—Patsy Jacksonville. Florida

THE DIFFERENCE IS in what is seen on television. If it is used to bring culture, information, wholesome entertainment and devotion into the home the difference is vast. If television is used to bring into the home what you call "shoot-em-up," "lovey-dovey" pictures with near nudity, robbery and murder,

then the difference is not so great. It is true that some of the basic elements are the same in each. Viewing in the home permits unlimited selectivity and, conversely, unlimited abuse. Thus, television can actually be made into a vile and odious destroyer or by Spartan discipline into an advantage in the home. The problem is not so much in the electronic devise itself, but in the person who uses it. This dual possibility is found in most of life. The sin or the holiness is found in the heart; the use of television is demonstration of what is in the heart of the user. I have strong objections to the things television does to the average home, but yet I can see advantages it can bring to the extraordinary home.



Is there Bible proof of oil appearing on people's hands and bodies, or a bloody cross in their foreheads?

—M. T. A.

Maud, Oklahoma

THERE IS NO scriptural basis, sanction or precedent for any such morbid manifestations. While this does not necessarily disprove its genuineness, it casts grave doubts upon any such claims and should warn every child of God to be judicious. Judge carefully the source, the nature, the consequences and the purpose.



Is a pastor justified in calling his members "Church of God hypocrites" if they don't pay tithes?

(Name withheld by request)

IT WOULD BE most unwise and uncharitable for any pastor to do so. He would be without sanction from the Scriptures or the Church. It is scriptural and proper to tithe, but intimidation is not God's way of leading into truth. "Love never fails."



In reference to Matthew 3:16 and 10:20, is the Spirit of God the Holy Ghost?

—Clark Napier Austin, Indiana

YES, THE HOLY GHOST is referred to in Scripture as Spirit of God, Spirit of the Father, Spirit of Christ (Romans 8:9), the Spirit, and other similar terms. But there is one Spirit (Ephesians 4:4) and that is the Holy Spirit, or Holy Ghost, the third Person of the triune God.

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